

# 12/B

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Robert SCHULZ et al.  
Title: NANOCOMPOSITES WITH ACTIVATED INTERFACES PREPARED BY MECHANICAL GRINDING OF MAGNESIUM HYDRIDES AND USE FOR HYDROGEN STORAGE  
Appl. No.: 09/529,910  
Filing Date: 06/28/2000  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: 1745

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (Amended) A process for preparing a nanocomposite based on magnesium and at least one or several other elements or compounds known to absorb hydrogen and to be very few miscible with magnesium or its hydride during grinding, characterized in that it comprises:

a) subjecting magnesium or a magnesium-based compound known to absorb hydrogen, to a hydrogenation in order to obtain the corresponding hydride in the form of a powder;

b) mixing the so-obtained hydride powder with the other element(s) or compound(s) or with a hydride of said other element(s) or compound(s);

c) subjecting the so-obtained mixture to an intensive mechanical grinding in order to obtain the corresponding nanocomposite in the form of a hydride; and, if required,

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